

byDesign

Week 4 (May 20-26): Lesson Guide

Introduce guests/share life.

Cast vision & open in prayer. Say, "We are all just trying to follow Jesus together."

Recall the guidelines together.

Hook Question: When was a time you partially "obeyed" a command from your authority?

Ask someone from your team to tell or read the following background for the story:

In last week's story Hannah prayed for a son. God heard Hannah and blessed her. Her son's name was Samuel. Samuel became a prophet and a man who reflected the image of God through his obedience. Samuel appointed the first king over Israel. This king's name was Saul.

Saul was growing in power and popularity with the people of Israel as he fought against the enemies of Israel. One of his great victories came against the Amalekites who had opposed them many years before as they fled Egypt. However, when Saul defeated the Amalekites, he drifted away from part of the mission God had given him. God told him that he wanted all the Amalekites possessions devoted to destruction. This included men, women, children, infants, oxen, sheep, camels and donkeys. Instead of doing what God commanded, Saul spared the king of the Amalekites, Agag, along with his best sheep, oxen, fattened calves and lambs. Anything that was good they kept and anything worthless they destroyed.

The Lord revealed to Samuel what Saul had done and He told Samuel that He regretted making Saul king over Israel.

This is where our story begins...

Tell the story from 1 Samuel 15:10-35: Change up the storyteller often!

Rebuild the story: Group members retell the story based on what they remember.

Read the story from 1 Samuel 15:10-35: Ask the group to read together.

Discuss these questions:

Head

Questions:

Quicker

tempo.

Heart Questions:

Slow down & wait!

Action

- What do you like or dislike from this story?
- What does this story teach us about people?
- What does this story teach us about God?
- Who do you relate to in this story? (Saul, Samuel, the people of Israel, God, etc.) Why?
- How can you apply this story to your life?
- Ask someone to retell this week's story one last time.

Close in prayer. Recruit a storyteller for next week.